THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE.

Diplomatic Correspondence Between the United States and Spain.

American Mediation Diplomatically Considered.

Strength of the Spanish Army in Cuba.

From the late diplomatic correspondence between he government of the United States and the Spanish government in relation to the struggle now going on for the independence of Caba we make the following extracts, which will be found to convey an intelligent view of the position taken by the two countries.

FIRST PROPOSITION FOR A SETTLEMENT. The first letter in the correspondence bears date Washington, Jane 2, 1869, and is addressed by Secretary of State Fish to Minister Sickles at Madrid. After referring to the situation in Cubs and calling attention to the conflict raging at that time for more than nine months, with no promise of a speedy termination, the Secretary writes to Mr. Sickles:-

The President directs you to offer to the Cabinet at Macrid the good offices of the United States for the purpose of bithemic to a close the civil war now invaging the island of Cuba, on the following

and. Cuba to pay to Spain a sum, within a time and in a zer to be agreed upon by them, as an equivalent for the and definite reim quiament oy? pain of all her rights t island, including the public property of every descrip-If Cuba should not be able to pay the whole bun at in cash the inture payments, by installments, are to be intely secured by a pleige of the export and import our duties under an arrangement to be agreed upon for rodection, in trust, for the purpose of securing both the pal and interest of those instalments until their final tree.

ar.e.—The abolition of slavery in the island of Cuba.

orh—An armistice pending the negotiations for the setnt above re-erred to.

tement above inserved to.

In case the good offices of the United States are accepted by Spain von will request that such steps may be immediately taxen as will arrest the progress of the fixin; and you will communicate at once by telexrapi with the department, using the tipner when necessary. Authority should also be asked in that case for the representatives of the revolutionary party now in the United States to communicate through the Spanish lines with those in command of the revolutionary party in Cuoa, in order that all further destruction of life and property may be arrested at the earliest possible moment.

ment.

It is proposed that the aegotiations for the settlement of the several questions to be adjusted between the contending parties shall be conducted here. You will therefore, in the event of our good offices being accepted, propose that a conference be accent the city of Washington, ac an early day, to be agreed upon between yourself and the Caoinet of Madrid, between properly authorized representatives of the two parties, the representative of each party to be clothed with inh, powers to agree to and to enter into a convention for a settlement on the bases above indicated, and to arrange, settle and sign all necessary details and other agreements that may be thought proper on both sides. y be thought proper on both sides.

June 29, Secretary Fish, in another letter, writes Minister Sickles that the proposal of the United tes is "for the purpose of bringing to a close the civil war now ravaging the islan." (Cuba), and Cau-tions the Minister of the delicacy to be observed on this point, so as not to arouse or excite any just susceptibilities of the government of the Minister or of the people of Spain." The same day the Secresary telegraphs to Minister Sickles to

sary telegraphs to Minister Sickies to

ACT FROMPLLY.

An early decision on the proposition to mediate is extremely important. Hasten it. Spanish authorities in Cuba are la potent for protection of the lives of our entizens. Cuba and Porto Rico should not be connected in the submission or negotiation.

SICKLES REPLIES.

under date of August 1, 1869, that he has communicated to Prins informally basis of convention. He pressed me to say how much Cuba and Porto Rico would give. I said I had no instructions, and suggested one nendred and twenty-five militons as probable. Frim said Spain might arrange preliminaties with United States and concede submomy of Cuba and Porto Rico for satisfactory equivalent as soon as hostilities censed, he promised to bring the whole subject before the council to-night. INTERVIEW BETWEEN MINISTER SICELES AND SENOR

On the 31st of July Minister Sickles met Señor Silvela, the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, During the interview Mr. Sickles proceeded to ob-

That the government and people of the United States feit a lively sympathy in the recent efforts made by the people of Spain in the great work of their nanonal reorganization, and that it was the made by the people of Spain in the great work of their naisonal reorganization, and that it was the earnest deaire of the Fresident to avoid anything that could embarrass the government of Spain at this time. In this relation I mentioned the scrupnions observance by the government of the United States of all its international obligations, and the strict enforcement of its neutrality laws in respect to the Cuban insurrection, at the same time pointing out the close relations by which the population of the United States is connected with Cuba, the near neighborhood and the large commercial and social intercuirse between them. It was but natural, I added, that a deep sympathy with the Cuban people should have grown up in the United States, especially as so many of our citzens regarded the cubans as dighting for the same principles of self-government we had ourselves adopted; that it were true, as is believed, that a majority of the people of Cuba desired to terminate their relation of colonial dependence upon he mother country, it seemed to the President that in this they were only following the general course of events upon the American Continent since the establishmens, of our own independence. This manifest and inevitable tendency had been generally recognized by the Enropean Powers, including not only Spain nerself, but Great Britain, France, Russia and other nations.

SBNOR SILVELA ON CUBA. After the Spanish Minister had neard Minister Sickles out he replied by saying that

Sickles out he replied by saying that

The Cuban question was one of the utmost gravity
and deneacy. It was the intention of the Spanish
incrais, who planned and executed the revolutionary movements which have given to Spain its new
position for granting self-government to Cuba. But
this latal insurrection broke out at the very moment
when it was becoming possible to give to Cuba alter
ther rights she usered. The cry of "Death to Spanjardy" was heard in Spain and it became impossible, in the face of civit, war, to carry out the beneficent plan that had ocen formed. The liberal party in
Spain finds itself, to its own inflorte regret, forced
into a seeming sympathy with the reactionary party cent plan that had occur formed. The hears party is pain finds used, to its own inflette regret, forced into a seeming sympathy with the reactionary party in Cuba; and the liberals of Cuba, who ought to be its firm friends, are converted by the latantity of the situation. Into its bitterest enemies. There is no sentiment dearer to the hearts of the liberal leaders than that of freedom to all men; yet they stand before the world, in this Cuban conflict, as opposed to self-government and rossuing the abolition of slavery. He considered the insurrection as a most deplorable misioriume and mistake, both for Cuba and for Spain. If a way could be found to settle all these questions in such a manner as to do justice to Cuba without infringing upon the honor of Spain the government would be greatly grathed. There is no intention or desire among the liberals of spain ever again to work (exploiter) the island of Cuba on the old selfish system. It has been their constant hope and wish to grant to the Cubans the administration of their own affairs and the full frents of their own labor, preserving their commercial connections and some snadow of their political relations.

GENERAL PRIM OBJECTS TO A CONFERENCE. The day after his interview with Senor Silvela Minister Sickles had an interview with General Prim, in relation to which he thus writes:-

I then sounded the Marshai upon the proposal for a conterence in Washington, in which Spain, the United States and Cuba should be represented; but to this ne at once demurred, saying Cuba could only be heard here through her deputies elected to the Cortes; that Spain might treat with the United States, not with Cuba.

SPAIN'S OFFER, On the 13th of August Mr. Sickles telegraphs to Secretary Fish the following:-

President of Council authorizes me to state that the good offices of the United States are accepted. He suggests informatly, for your information, four cardinal propositions that will be acceptable, if ofered by the United states, as the basis for a convention, the details to be settled as soon as practicable:

First. The insurgents to tay down their arms. esty.

The people of Cuba to vote by universal suffrage a the question of their independence.

Third—The people of Chas to vote by universal suffrage upon the question of their independence.

Fourth—the majority having declared for independence, spain to grant it, the Cortes comenting; Cuba paying satisfactory equivalent, guaranteed by the United States.

As soon as preliminaries are settled, safe conduct through Spanish lines to be given for communications.

on with insurgents. SECOND INTERVIEW WITH SENOR SILVELA.

On the 10th of August Mr. Sickles, according to appelntment, wasted on Seder Silvela in the foreign office, and the subject of the former interview was resumed. Mr. Sickles says he expressed the regret that

"the Spanish government by choosing to treat the subject as a purely legal question, to be settled according to their own forms of procedure, had apparently closed the door to any arrangement by which the good omces of the United States could be made

immediately effective." Señor Silvela replied that such was not the mean ng or intention of his government, and expressed the conviction

the conviction

That by the friendly intervention of the United States a great step in advance has teen rendered possible. Mr. Stivela then entered upon a very find analysis of article 108 of the Spanish constitution, snowing that it and two distinct and Spanish constitution, snowing that it and two distinct and Spanish constitution, while the terms, it precluded the government from making any definite arrangement in legard to Cuba until the Cuban representatives shall have taken their seats in the Cortes, on the other hand it authorizes the government to make any arragement that might seem expedient after the Cuban Deputies arrive, the Spanish government and Chambers ocing then free to negotiate on the basis of a liberal constitution, complete autonomy or independence; and that, sithough it might be said the independence of the Island was not contemplated by the constitution, yet, giving the article a somewhat latitudinarian construction, it was susceptible even of that interpretation.

Mr. Sickles responded as follows:-

Mr. Sickles responded as follows:—
That in dealing with the events now transpiring in Cuba it was necessary to look at them in a practical point of view; that unless some arrangement could be made at once the conflict might soon reach proportions and involve complications that would greatly increase the difficulties of a settlement; and that not with standing the desire of the President to do all in his power to promote a satisfactory adjustment, the interests affected and the strong current of sympathy in the struggle felt in the United States might cause no little embarrassment if nothing more could be done until the Cuban deputies took their seats in the Cortes.

SECRETARY FISH AGAIN URGES ACTION.

SECRETARY FISH AGAIN URGES ACTION.

Minister Sickles as follows:—
Urge acceptance on basis proposed by the United States. First proposition of Spain, that insurgents lay down arms, is incapable of attainment as a pre-timinary. The third, to ascertain the will of the Cupans by a vote, is impracticable because of the disorganization of society, and the terrorism that prevails, and the violence and insubordination of the volunteers. There can be no question as to the will of the majority; it has been recognized and admitted. An armistice should immediately be agreed upon to arrest the carnage and destrection of property, and opportunity be granted to communicate with the insurgents, and emancipation of slaves be determined. Minister Sickles as follows:-

INTERVIEW WITH THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

On the 20th of August Minister Sickles had an interview with the President of Council. The sub-The President of the Council said his idea was that the governments of the United States and Spain should come to an understanding in regard to the question—a full and complete accord; that then the United States should employ their Induonee with the Cubans to induce them to accept a basis of settle-

ment which should comprise—
First—A cassation of hostilities.
Scond—An amnesty.
Third—The election of deputies.
Fourth—A project of law to be submitted by the government to the Cortes, settling the future of the island.

It was impossible to act officially in the matter while the insurrection still manutained itself. But the arrangement which the two governments were now trying to arrive at was as careest, as serious, and as binding as if it were in form and manner a treaty. I asked what would be the result if the United States accepted such a basis of agreement, and the Cuoaus should refuse to lay down their arms and proceed to the election of deputies, and vote on the question of their independence. The President of the Council said:—"in that case there would be but one solution—continuing the war a outrance."

The Cubans must be parties to a negotiation.

THE CUBANS MUST BE PARTIES TO A NEGOTIATION. On the 24th of August Secretary Fish telegraphs to Minister Sickles:-

to Minister Sickies:—

The propositions of Spain are incompatible with any practicable negotiation. The representatives of the insurrectionary government are necessary parties to a negotiation. Free communication inrough the Spainsn lines is immediately necessary. The United States cannot ask the insurgents to lay down their arms unless the volunteers are simultaneously effectually disarmed, and it good latin disbanced. This, if practicable, would require time. We want to arrest the destruction of life and properly and to stop the outrages and annoyances to our citizens. An armistice would effect this immediately, and the terms of the compensation to be made to Spain by Cuba could then be arranged between them under the neutation of the United States. You may say that we deem an armistice indispensable to the success of any negotiations. Spain may in honor grant this at the request of the United States, and in deference to the wishes of a friendly Power, whose good offices she is willing to accept. This being done, negotiations can immediately be opened that will probably result in peace and her receiving a fair compensation.

MR. FISH AGAIN URGES ACTION.

MR. FISH AGAIN URGES ACTION. September 1, Minister Sickles is again urged as

follows by Mr. Fish in the following despaten:

United States willing to mediate between Spain and Cuba on these terms:—First, immediate armistice; second, Cuba to recompense Spain for public groperty laken; United States not to guarantee unless Congress approve; the guarantee unless groupers approve; the guarantee unless more is offered; third, persons and property of Spailards remaining on Island protected, but they may at option withdraw. To prevent difficulties, as well as to stop bloodshed and devastation, we must have early decision. These offers withdrawn unless accepted before October 1. Say that anarchy prevans over much of the island. Murgers of American citizens are committed by volunteers. Combiscation of their property attempted by Spanish authorities.

Minister Sickles, under date of September 10, communicates the following as the resume with the Secretary of Sparling AGE 182. follows by Mr. Fish in the following despatch:-

First—Spain frankly and gratefully accepts good offices of United States, but cannot accept bases proposed, and sake withdrawale of my note of September 3. Spain desires, without appearance of pressure, to make the concessions she offers to the concessions are

off appearance of pressure, to make pressure of contract to the commission of Cortes now in session, Second—Permanent commission of Cortes now in session, representing all parties, unanimously assure government all the means at their disposal to put down rebellion; they opsoze treating about Cubs with any foreign Power; not observed the contract of the contract of

states by which their good offices may help to end attrogate.

Third-Spain has not begun and does not contemplate negotiations with any foreign flower about Cuba, or the proposed mediation of the United States, nor has my note been communicated to any foreign government.

Fourth-Spain desires to terminate civil war in Cuba, and will agree to armistice if necessary to peace. This measure will be recommended to the Captain General of Cuba, but must be left to his discretion.

Fifth-Spain is ready at once to give Cuba ample reforms and wider libertice enjoyed in pennsula, also general amnesty and gradual emancipation of saves.

These refused, the war will be prosecuted with

These refused, the war will be prosecuted with energy and activity, pardoning, however, the van-quished and prisoners, and striving to prevent all sneading of blood through revenge, and all reprisals, whatever the provocation from insurgents.

Sixth Reparation promised in cases of Speakman an Wyeth. Orders given to prevent such cruedies hereafter. Spain regards Cuban question as purely domestic, and will not, in my judgment, accept mediation. If our offer be withdrawn, and friendly relations con-tinue, our good offices can mitigate the cred charac-ter of the war, promote liberal concessions, and per-paps bring about an armistice.

SECRETARY FISH EXPLAINS. in a telegram dated September 23, addressed to Min-

ister Stekles, that

The good offices of the United States were tendered in a spirit of mutual triendship and in the interest of humanity, of Spain, of Cuba and of the United States. If the tender be not acceptable to Spain you may withdraw it, and you may say that those good offices will be ready whenever they can tend to a settlement of the unhappy contest that is devastating Cuba and injuring the commercial interests of this and of other nations.

THE SEIZURE OF THE SPANISH GUNBOATS. In relation to the arrest of the Spanish gumboate

In relation to the arrest of the Spanish gunboats in this city Secretary Fish says:—

The gunboars were arrested on the request of Peru, who claims to be at war with Spain. We cannot deay the condition of war as an abstract fact, in asmuch as we have offered, and both parties have accepted our mediation. Peru claims that although these boats may not go to Peru they will release from employment other portions of the Spanish Navy, and arrengthen ner in case the peading mediations do not result in a peace. Our position of impartial neutrality compelled their detention.

In a communication from Minister Sickles to Mr. Fish, bearing date September 25, 1866, the former

Fish, bearing date September 25, 1869, the former gives the discussions which took place between him and Senors Silveia and Becerra. Mr. Silveia re-

ferred to

ARMED EXPEDITIONS.

He spoke of two letters which he had just received from America; one from the Spanish Consul at New York, amounting the departure of an armed vessel from Codar Keys for Cuba with six guns, four thousand rifes and two hundred men, and the other from Mr. Roberts, detailing the dimenties which the American government threw in the way of the departure of the Spanish gunboats in New York. He chuarged upon the apparent unfriendliness of this action.

Explanations being made by Minister Sickles,

Explanations being made by Minister Sickies, Senor Silvels "very frankly admitted the zeal and good latth with which the American government had ruthiled is obligations; he only mentioned this case because the two letters had come together."

This subject was also referred to in the discussion at the Foreign ounce, when General Prim stated that he "had given very severs and positive orders on that subject to the Captain General that those scandalous scenes should be prevented at all hazards, and that General De Rodas had answered avowing his intention of putting a stop to such occurrences, and of resorting to the punishment of death, if necessary, to accomplish this."

Minister Sickies begged to commond "to the consideration of the Spatish government the propriety of adopting the system of carriel and treatment of prisoners according to the rues of ordinary warrare; that this would at once divest the war of its savage character, and make more practicable the projects of pacification which the government ea-

tertained. General Prim said that it was necessary to proceed gradually and surely. The government was now occupied with various decrees, carrying its liberal policy into effect in Cuba. A decree would soon be issued initialing the GRADUAL ABOLITION OF SLAYERY, by giving freedom to all negroes born siter date. The government would also soon announce a plan of administrative and municipal reform for Cuba. All thus without waiting for the termination of the war."

THE SPANISH ABMY IN CUBA.

On the 29th of December Minister Suckies communicated with Mr. Fish the following estimate of the Spanish forces composing the "Army of Cuba" compiled from the statement published in La Iberia of December 26, 1880, and from semi-official squares of information. The strength of battalions, batteries and squarons, conforms to the regulations of the Spanish sorvice:

INFANTRY.

Eight regiments of infantry of the line, two battalions of eight hundred each.

Two battalions of the guard all veterans—one thousand each.

Two battalions of mittis (estimated).

1,000

There is a stations of infantry organized in

Two battailons or use thousand each.
Two battailons of mittis (estimated).
Rieven battailons of infantry, organized in
Cuba (estimated to be of the same strongth
as peolosular light infantry). gth 11,000 62,400

Field artillery being organized, force not stated.

CAVALEX.

Twenty-five squadrons— till companies of 150 each
(full strength in Spanish army).

ENGINEERS.
One battallon—ten companies of 150 each.

MARINES.

A000

MARINES.

4,000 Four battallons...

Grand total..... Infantry, Sfty-aix battalions.
Artiflery, four battalions, sixty-four guns.
Carary, twenty-five squadrons.
Engineers, one battalion.
Marines, four battalions.

THE CUBIN LEAGUE.

A meeting of the "Cuban League of the United States" was held last evening at Delmonico's, at which a large number of distinguished gentlemen. including Generals Granger and Bartlett and Hon. Cassius M. Clay, were present. General McMahon, the president of the League, stated that during big the president of the League, stated that during his recent visit to Washington he ascertained that the resolutions offered by General Banks in Congress in favor of the patriot cause in Caba would soon be adopted by the House of Representatives, and also that General Banks, General Logan, Senator Wilson, Governor Swann, of Maryland, and other prominent members of Congress had expressed a wildingness to address a mass meeting in this city in behalf of the strugging Cubans. The proceedings of the meeting fast night were confined to perfecting the details of organization and arranging for a grand Cuban mass meeting to be held in this city at an early date. Arrangements were also made to have similar demonstrations made in other large cities on the same night of the meeting is to be announced at the regular meeting of the League next saturday night.

A vote of thanks was given to Colonel Rockafeller, of the Seventy-first regiment, for his offer to the League of the use of the regular meetings; out it was decided to hold the next meeting at Demonico's, as that place is more convenient to members of the League. The finances and the progress of the League in its work of developing the sentiment of the country in favor of Cuban indepeadence were reported to be in a most satisfactory condition. A letter was read from Selor Alasma, president of the Cuban Junia, expressing regret that he and General Quesada were prevented by prior engagements from accepting the invitation of the League to attend this meeting, and noped that they might on some future occasion avail shem-selves of the offer. recent visit to Washington he ascertained that

THE THRTY-THIRD STREET EXPLOSION.

The Theory of Boiler Fractures-Coroner's Investigation Concluded-The Owner of the Boiler Subjected to the Hackneyed "Consure" by a Jury.

Yesterday afternoon Coroner Flynn concluded the nvestigation previously commenced in the case of William S. Wright and George Hussey, who died from the effects of injuries received on the 14th ult. by the explosion of a steam boiler in the manufactory of Messrs. Decker & Co., 517 West Thirty-third preet. Only two witnesses were examined, and the

street. Only two witnesses were examined, and the substance of their testimony, logether with the verdict of the jury, will be found below.

Norman Wiard deposed that he had examined the exploded before since the occurrence, as he was stying exclusive attention to the question of bother explosions and their causes. The witness behaved the cause of the explosion to be unequal expansion; when the engineer left the boller at the time of going to dinner be had left the furnace door open, thus causing an unequal expansion of the boffer shell and crown sheet; indications of overheating were detected, as the iron had scaled, and the boller was unusually full of scales, thus showing that the engineer was at fault in not cleaning it at regular intervals; in the opinion of the witness the engineer was not to blaine in misjudying the quantity of not water in the boller, as he look the steam gauges as indications; these gauges are simply measures of balk, and bot water was very uneven and uncertain in its indications. Mr. Wiard exand uncertain in its indications. Mr. Wiard ex-plained the principle of unequal expansion by stat-ing that they had probably botteed that a tumbler could be constantly and safely used with cold water could be constantly and safely used wint could water when hot water was, however, poured into the tumbler it would break. This was explained by the fact that a portion of the glass was instantly heated while the remaining portions were cold—nence the

while the remaining portions were cold—neace the fracture.

Charles E. Emory, consulting engineer, being recalled, deposed that he had recently inspected the holler and had changed his opinion in regard to the cause of the exclosion; be had believed that insufficiency of water was the cause, but he had descovered that when the boiler was patched several of the boils holding the crown sheet to the crown sheet head been removed; from this cause the crown sheet became overstrained for a space of fifteen inches, as it had no support from the stay bars, and it was torn from the sube sheet; the boiler was in an explosive condition ever since it was parched; Mr. Emory thought the enting off of the stay both heads passing through the crown bar permitted that part of the sneet to builge down, and it must have been broken by the strain on the finage of the tube sheet, which was evidently nearly equal to the tensile condition of the mon.

which was evidently learly equal to the tensile condition of the iron.

The case was then submitted to the jury, who returned the following VERDICT.

"That the deceased puries came to their deaths

"that the deceased periods came to their deaths by injuries received from a boller explaint on the 14th day of February, 1870, at 517 West thirty-third street. We consider Mr. Chapman guilty of culpability in having such a badly constructed and dejective boller on his premises."

ST. DOMINGO.

Annexation-Bacz Stumping the Rural Districts-The Feeling of the People-To-bacco-Sugar-United States Coal Depot, St. Domingo City, Feb. 15, 1870.

A large part of the people in the country have been very strongly opposed to the annexation scheme, having been told by those to whom they look for information that if the United States were to take their country they would be reduced to their former condition of slavery and made to work for former condition of slavery and made to work for the benefit of the whites as their brethren do in Cuba. This state of things has been easily brought about by the opponents of Baez, who desire to see him overthrown by Cabral, by instilling these false impressions into the minds of the negro preachers and class leaders, who are nearly as ignorant and narrow-minded as their followers, by whom they are implicitly trusted and believed. To counteract this feeling President Baez, with a party of gentlemen, has spent the greater part of the last two weeks in going about the country, holong meetings and speaking to the people, explaining to them the nature of the plan of annexation and the advantages to be derived, by them through this course. He said that by this plan a continuance of peace would be assured to them, and that they need rearnetteer internal not external focs. That they could go into their fields and cultivate the crops, with which an ever bountiful Providence had blessed them, relying upon the strong arm of a powerful government to protect them in their peaceful avocations and provide them with a ready and profusable market for all the produce of their soil and their industry. His remarks were listened to with eager attention by large crowds of the country people at every place in which he spoke, and were received with cheers and appiause, his hearers expressing the most satisfied approval of his views on the proposed annexation.

The differences which existed between this government and the United States relative to the adjustment of annexation has been satisfactorily arranged, and as lar as we are concerned aanexathe benefit of the whites as their brethren do in Cuba.

justment of annexation has been satisfactorily arranged, and as far as we are concerned annexa-

arranged, and as lar as we was to contented annexa-tion is a fact.

Ten years of peace will make this island a very large sugar producer, and such is the ricaness of the soil that the crops can be taken from it for many years to come without the need for manure, parisu-larly in the Vega Real district, where much tobacco is grown of a very fine quality. Two thousand eight hundred bales of this topacco were taken to New York by the Tybee on her last voyage, and as much more is now ready for her. It is to be resnipped

from New York to Hamburg.

A large quantity of coal has been landed at the coal depot established by the United States at Flag Island, and a schooper from Philadelphia has just finished discharging about 250 tons more.

The Mordaunt Divorce Case-Scandal and Morale of the Testimony.

MERITS AND DEMERITS OF THE CASE.

Aristocracy, Royalty, the Sense of Public Decency and Democracy.

What the English People Say in the Lower Strata.

Sir Charles Mordaunt May Visit America.

By a special correspondence from London, dated on the 19th and 21st of February, and published underneath, we have the HEBALD report of the Mordaunt divorce case suit, its merits, demerits, morale and indecency, with all its social complications, aristocratic and royal. The comments of the "hard fisted" democracy of Britain on the grand scandal

The Mordaunt Divorce Case-Great Scandal in the Aristocratic Circles of Eugland-Indecent Nature of the Evidence-The Prince of Wales as a Witness-True History of the Cane.

Some weeks ago I mentioned in one of my letters to the HERALD that a divorce case /Mordaunt vs. Mordaunt, Cole, Johnstone and Others) was pending, and that it would excite the greatest possible interest when it came to be heard. The preliminary trial, involving the santty of the lady, has at last come on. The Divorce Court is crowded to the very roof every day with all the fashionable people of the land, and at our breakfast table each morning we are met with column after column of the most disgusting details printed in every newspaper, and making them no more fit to be read by young people than the most indecent books that ever were printed in Holywell street. There never was, I care not in what country, a case which was more degrading to the nation in which it was tried. Not only have some of the first families of the land been washing the very dirtiest linen they have in public. but just Lecause those who are tous washing are titled people the rest of the world flocks in crowds to see the operation. Why the evidence upon such a trial should be printed in every disgusting detail I cannot imagine. Men are men all the world over, and as there was a traiter among the twelve Apostles, so there must, and ever will be sinnersdrungen sinners, carnat sinners, and every other kind of offender-until the end of time. But why parade their vices? Why make more of the details

As your readers may not be induced to wade through the English newspapers in order to obtain a summary of this case, I wid give you the outlines of it, with which I am unfortunately well acquainted, for I have known all my life the family to which Lady Mordaunt belongs, and remember her very lew years ago. a very pretty little girl, laughing and running about like a young deer by the side of her governess. I am not a young man, and have seen, God help me, not a little of the bad side of life, as every one must do whose business it is to visit much with the world in this great city. But it makes me sadder than I care to express to think now, in a lew short years, the merry child I used to know in Perthshire has changed into what I do not

of such impurities?

know in Perthabire has changed into what I do not like to say, nor even to think about. Here, then, is a time and simple account of this unfortunal elady, and of her jet young lite:

LADY MORDAUNT

is the daughter of Sir Thomas Moncreiffe, a baronet of an old family, and owner of a fine old place in Perthabire. Scotland, called Moncreiffe House, near the Bridge of Earn, which many of your readers must have seen when they visited Scotland. Sir Thomas has three or four soos and, I tuink, six danghiers. The latter are all very good-looking. The endest is married to the Duke of Anol, another to a Mr. Forces, a very weathy Scotla gentelman, and a third to the harl of Dudley. Lady Mornaunt is the fourth daughter, and is about as handsome a woman as you or any person ever set eyes upon. She was married in 1866 to Sir Charles Mordaunt, a weathy Daronet, then only thirty years of age. The evidence on the trial states that this minon look place "with the consent of all parties," but which is not the lact. Sir Charles was very much in love with ner, out she did not care for him, and, indeed, wanted to marry a relation of her own, a young man or fair means, but not by many thousands a year as good a maten as Sir Charles Mordaunt. But her parents insisted upon her marrying the latter. I do not mean that they shut her up and led her upon bread and water; but latters and mothers have always the means of maxing their daughters obey them in the matter of maxing their daughters obey them in the matter of maxing their daughters obey them in the matter of maxing their daughters obey them in the matter of maxing their daughters obey them in the matter of maxing their daughters obey them in the matter of maxing their daughters dept them in the matter of material them.

charies Mortaunt. But her parents insisted upon her marrying the latter. I do not mean that they sint her up and led her upon bread and water; but atteres and mothers have always the means of maxing their daughters obey them in the matter of maxing their daughters obey them in the matter of maxing their daughters well ways the means of maxing their daughters well settled in life. She insisted on the late Earl of Kinnoul), was a most worldy minded woman, and had a personal pride in getting her daughters well settled in life. She insisted on the marriage taxing place, and it did take piace. Sir Charles Mordaunt is a young, thoughtless man, much given to shooting, humang and other field sports. After the first few months, sithough he kept her in every possible inxury, and denied her nothing, he left his wife very much to herself. Her deligat was in bails the opera, garden parties and the like; all his pleasure was in yaching, fox huating, shooting, fishing and oner anusciments which took him much away from home. She was very young and had more that one constant attendant of the male sex upon her. It was the od, old story. With no one to guide or advise her she overstepped the bounds of prudence and modesty in her conduct, and them—to use the old expression—"got talked about."

Her sisters, the Ducaess of Athol and the Countess of Dudley, tried to advise her, but sie defiel them. Her parents attempted to do the same but only with like results. She occame what in the London slang of the eary is catled "a fast woman." In the fastionable world there are sees" and "sets." Some of the eare brought together by political, others by religious, others by tamity thes. There are, I need hardly say, good, bad and matherent people among them all. But there is a "fast so,"—as set of peope who look upon anusement as the first duty of life and who care less for what she did nor where she will have a set of the great with the same politics, ther "last so,"—as set of peope who look upon anusement as the first duty of life and who ca

and to be seen night after night at the opera; but she was defiant. Matters had pot worse and she had become more obstinate—more careless than ever of her good name. On one occasion Sir Charless was apoken to very serfously by his father-in-law, who had overheard by chance, at White's Chub (the most extensive ciub in London and the only one to which the Prince of Wales being very devoted to Lady Mordaunt. Sir Charles questioned his servants and found that the Prince had more than once visited at his house and bad seen Lady Mordaunt alone. He spoke to his wile and told her that, however fattering such visits were, they could not but cause her to be greatly "talked about." Lady Mordaunt seemed to have been affected with what was said, and about this time she found herself to be in a certain condition. Her baby was born prematurely, and the day after it was born she sent tor Sir Charles and told him he was not the father of it, also that she had gone wrong with Sir Frederick Johnstone and Lord Cole. I must tell you that the poor baby was born blind, and was afflicted with a fearful malady; to which I need not more than allude, and which, it is said in the evidence, Sir Frederick Johnstone has suffered from so much as to prevent him marrying. At first Sir Charles would not believe als wife. He thought she was mad and that her sickness had brought on a kind of delirium. But again and again, at different intervals of several days, she repeated the tale, until her husband becan to believe that there must be, something in her story. He cross-

questioned the servants, he opened her desk. In the latter he found a number of letters which—well I must not anticipate the evidence that will be given in the divorce case—and some of them were from the Trince of Wales, others from Lord Cole, Sir Frederick Johnstone, Captain Farquhar and other familianable but very "fasi" men, the fastest of the fast, lie then came to London—the confinement had taken place at Walton—and questioned the waiters and chimbermands at the Alexandria and Panace tlotals, at both of which Lady Mordaun had resided for a few days respectively, when she had come up to London for a few days for the purpose of consulting her medical adviser. On one of these occasions she wrote to Sir Charles the following letter:

Palace Hotel, Buckinghan Gate, Nov. 8.

GET:— PALACE HOTEL, BUCKINGHAM GATE, Nov. 8.

My DARLING CHARLE—One line to say I shall not be able to reach home by twerve o'clock train, but will come by the one which reaches at Sid. Send carriage to meet me. I felt horring dan by myself all yesterday evening. I have not had much time as yet boday. I have seen Priesdy and will tell you all about it when I come home.

Your affectionate wife,
HARRIET MORDAUNT.

Your affectionate wite,

HARRIET MORDAUNT.

SUSPICION AND DIVORCE.

After—in the following month of March, his child having been born in February—his suspicions were faily aroused. Sir charles found that the very evening which his wrie "felt so norrholy dull" she spent with Captair Farquiar at the hotel, and went alone with him to the theatre. Is it then surprising if Sir Charles resolved then and there never to see his wrie, but to sue for a divorce?

When he had finally determined upon this step, her lather determined to set up the plea that she was manne and that her copiession of guilt to her husband were merely the ravings of a mad woman. And this is now the case that is being tried—whether she is of is not mad, and therefore whether, in the latter event, she is not sit to answer for nerself. If she is proved to be mad, or to have been mad when she disclosed her guilt (real or supposed) to her husband, of course the trial will not go on, and she will be kept more or less under restraint. It is not for me to anticipate the decision of the jury as to her state of mind, but the evidence given goes very far to disprove any such supposition. For instance, here is the c. idence given yesterday by Mr. Cadogan, the clergyman of Walton, a gentleman who could hardly have any motive in trying to prove one thing or another, and whose sacred calling and excellent character ought to place nun above suspicion:—

character ought to place film above suspicion:—

The Rev. Abel Cadogau, examined by Mr. Inderwick, said: I am vicar of waton, and I have known Sir Charles Mordaunt some time; I saw Lady Mordaunt on the with of March; I want to ba, ilgs, the child privately in the house; I had not much conversation with her; before the child was brought in I asked her how she was; site said "Very well;" I di hot see her again until Easter Day, the Lime Mrs. Forbes was not at the house; none of her family were there; on that occasion she did not converse much; I received a letter from Sir Charles, stating his great sorrow and brobbe; I read the letter to her; I said I could no; express what he wished better than he himself; she said down and crebt, and I expressed, mysaid ready to be any comfort. were there; on that occasion and did not converse inten; and troobe; I read the letter to her; I and I could not express what he wished better than he himself; she sat down and cried, and texpressed myself ready to be any comfort to her; and sat down and cried, and texpressed myself ready to be any comfort to her; and sat some of the Church; I don't think her mind was affected; I could not say the exact dates I saw her, but I saw her four or ive times; I saw are when the first harden of the could be said to the country of the

of March—baster day.

To Lord leaster day.

To Lord leaster day.

To Lord leaster day hat is the letter I read to her when she cried, and made no remark.

Mr. Cadigan, comming, said.—Between the 25th of March and the 25th of April is aw her four or uve times at her own house, I want as parish minister; on the 25th of April she saked why Mrs. Cadigan was not there, and sail Charle would not be able to prove, c.; I explained to her that I could not don't here to church while she was under such accusations; It was a notorious scandal; I assumed no.hing; I said "notorious scandal," I deconversation on the point that took place; when she changed the conversation on the point that took place; when she changed it with; I ready cannot say what the words were; she waked to the door with me, as he suward and, and said "Goodby." the last time I saw her was about the child being publicly received in church; the said, "Yes, ob, yes," directly she answered at once and took no time to consider; she suggested the golmother-her sizer; I suggested codishers and poduothers, an then she ga e me the names; it was the 2d of May the last time I saw her.

If y bergeant cannotine—On the occasion of the conversation about the church there was no indication that her mind was unacond; to the best of my judgment nothing in all her conversations made me think so, when I and "notorious scandal" I meant nor own statements; winst I told her I believed the factor produced was in her bandwriting; recalling her manner and demeanor take.

The evidence that has come out on this trial respecting the Prince of Wates does not, as yet and may not to the end, criminate his Royal Highness. I hear that the case will not be over to-day, but is to be postponed until Wednesday next, in order to give the Prince time to come to London. He is a witness for Sir Charles Mordaunt, and must therefore have been cited in order to prove that the lady was not mad. Whatever his evidence is you shall have by the next or the following steamer. So far as Sir Charles Mordaunt was examined yesterday the following was what he said respecting the Prince:—

the Prince:—
Were you (Sir Charles Mordaunt) aware that the Prince of
Maiss was also an acquaintance of your wife's? I was.
I believe you had no personal nequaintance with his Royal
Highness? I cannot say that I knew him well; I have spoken
to nim.
Ists beyond that you had no acquaintance with him? He
was never a friend of mine.

was never a friend of mine.

Out you were perfectly well aware that he was acquainted with your wire's family? I was.

An ion visiting terms with her family? Certainly.

Out of Never to your house on any invitation of your wife.

Individually the service of the

laid.

Lord Penzauce—Can you tell us what you said to her? I said that I heard from various quarters certain circumstances which caused me to make that remark; I did not enter into full particulars.

You did not wish her to retain his acquaintance? I did

You did not wish her to retain his acquaintance? I did not.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine—At the time you expressed that desire to Lady Mordaunt, had the Frince of Wales to your knowledge been on once or two occasions at your house? I never saw him there but once; I did once.

And wast it after that that you expressed that wish to Lady Mordaunt? Yes, it was after that.

You were in Parliament, I believe? Yes, I represented the Soutnern division of Warwickshire up to the last dissolution of Parliament, in less, having been closted in 1852.

Were you aware of the fact until after your wife's confinement that the Frince of Wales had been a constant visitor to your house? I was not.

Were you aware that any correspondence existed between your wise and the Prince? Ho, I was not.

Are you saying that literally that you were not personally aware of any etters passing between them? I have never seen any letters.

Lord Penzance—Had you known the fact? that is the question. I cannot recollect that there was a correspondence.

Lord Penzance—Taat is not the question.

seen any letters.

Lord Penzance—Had you known the fact? that is the question. I cannot recollect that there was a correspondence.

Lord Penzance—That is not the question.

Mr. Sergeam Ballanths—derry you aware that letters had passed between the Prince of Wales and your wife before her confinement? I am navare that she had received letters from him before I had spoken to her.

Lord Penzance—Any you aware that before your wife's commement and since you expressed a wish to her on the author, she had received letters from the Prince of Wales? I cannot evolute having seen such letters.

Lord Penzance—That is not the question. What we want to know is whether you were aware that there was a correspondence or not? Not before her commement.

The question of the learned Sergeant is whether you were aware that there was a correspondence of may sort, however revial, going on between your wife and the Prince of Wales?

Mr. Sergeant ball and her—And supposing the Prince of Wales has been at your house on several occasions when you were attending the House of Commons, were you made acquainted with the fact? I was not, except on one cocasion.

Lord Penzance—Did you know from any other source that he called? No; I users heard of the frequent visits that he made.

Surely you can answer so almple a question at that. You

made.

Surely you can answer so simple a question as that. You say that once you were aware that his Royal Highness was there, were you ever made acquainted with the fact that he called there? I have beard that he did, but I never saw him. Sergeant Ballantine-Did you hear that he had called there requestly? I heard that he called there occa-

him.

Mr. Sergeant Ballantine—Did you hear that he had called there frequently? I heard that he called there occasionally.

From whom? Lady Mordannt? No.

I do not wish you to name any names, but was the fact mentioned by any members of your family? Had something been said in connection with the Frince of Wates' vasts by connections of the family? Yes.

Dit you speak to Laty Mordanot after that? Yes; it was on the occasion when I said I warned her not to continue the acquaintance. In the month of November, 1957, Lady Mordanut went to Loudon with her maid. Jessie Clarke. I offered to accompany her. She told me she was going shopping, and I should rather be in her way than otherwise.

It may be as well to explain here that Lord Penzance is the Chief Judge of the Divorce Court, and Mr. Sergeant Ballantine is the leading counsel for Sir Charles Mordaunt.

QUEEN VICTORIA.

Whatever may be the upsnot of this trial, it must prove the sowing of seed from which a bud barvest will be reaped, not only by those nearest concerned, but also by the English aristocracy in general.

The Queen, I was told yesterday by one of her lords in waiting, is almost out of her mind that the Prince of Wates should be mixed up in any way with such an affair. Perhaps I am wrong, but I cannot help thinking that Lady Mordaunt's family have behaved injudiciously in this matter. If she is proved not to be insane, the whole affair will have to be entered into again before the Divorce Court, in order to prove that she was guilty of adultery. If she is mad the evidence already given—and I have reason to know that worse is yet behind—will not prove her to be now, whatever the poor girl was once, that any man would wish one of his female reached me. The only item to note is the collection of letters from the Prince of Wales to Lady Mordaunt; in winch, atthough familiar, there is certainly no ling criminal.

Dickers at work.

To pass to a more agreeable subject I may mentainly nothing criminal.

DICKENS AT WORK. To pass to a more agreeable subject I may men-

tion that the name of Mr. Dickers' new nove! "announced this morning, and it is to be called "Th Mystery of Edwin Drood." The first number is to appear on Sasurday, the 2d of April, it twalty monthly shilling paris, in the old form, like "Pickwick," "David Copperdeld," and his old publications.

The Court Stands Adjourned-Public Com-ments on the Case-London Society, Its Moral Criticism-"Fast" and "Slow"-The Prince of Wales" "Set"-The Sanday Press and the "Hard-fisted" Workingmen. LONDON, Peb. 21, 1870.

The proceedings of the Mordanut trial are stayed until Wednesday next, the 23d inst., and now comes the question, what does London "society" say of these proceedings? In the highest circles of the land there are two very distinct "sels" or "cliques" of people. The one I may call "the fast," the other, for distinction's sake, "the slow." Now, to the "fast" set belong most of those who are intimate with the Prince of Wales, and what may be termed "the court" of the present day. In this "fast" set are to be found many persons who ought to know better, and whose age, if nothing else, should keep them in more respectable paths. But that is their business. At the theatres, and also in private houses, Sir Frederick Johnstone, Lord Cole and Captain Farquhar are received, even by ladies, as if nothing had happened. As for the Prince of Wales-who, if not proved guilty of breaking the seventh commandment, has certainly got the imputation hanging over his head, and is, or ought to be, all the more to

not proved guilty of breaking the seventh commandment, has certainly got the imputation hanging over his head, and is, or ought to be, all the more to blame, from the position he holds and from the fact of his being a married man—on Saturday last some of the first men in England, overs and commoners, dined at his table, their respective wives being with them; and on Wednesday next, the day apou which the trial will reopen, there is to be a grand dinner party at Mr. Gladstone's, to which some turty people are invited to meet the Prince, and there will be an evening party after dinner, at which all the ladies of the nighest rank in London will be present.

I make no comment on this; I merely relate the facts. If anything coald prove that a change has taken place in the tone of Englah "society" since the days when we really had a court (and when the Queen and the late Prince Consort set the example to that "society"). I think that what I have told you will serve that end. Talk of Italian or French morality! In those countries, if there is sin, it is as any rate decently covered, not openly paraded. Moreover, in those countries, as with you Americans, when a man discovers his wire to have committed adultery he generally does his best to shoot the adulterer. But not so in this case—not so in England, from all I see.

Tace is in London but one bona fade Sunday newspaper, all the other weekly journals being published on Saturday. This is the Observer, and as it gives some hours' later news than the Saturday evening papers it is very extensively read, more so, I am sorry to say, than either the Bible or praver book, although it does appear on Sunday. Yesterday—Sunday, the 20th—the Ossrer contained a full report of the six days' proceedings in the Divorce Court on this matter. "Nice reading for Sunday," you will say. But I am told as a positive fact that several thousand more copies than usual were soid of the paper on that day week. One paper, and only one—namely, the Echo—has notice i the intended motion, and here is

tempt which the after-mention of their names excites in the better and sounder pertion of the community. They would, so faulty is our law, altogether escape punishment were it not for the terrible pillory in which this publicity holds them to the soorn of decent men and women.

This, as you will say, is curious moraity, and a still more curious picture of English society, taken from a paper edited and written by certain well known gentiemen of the upper mindle class. But what say the working classes—the people of England—of this trist? From this journal, catled Reynoids? Newspaper, one that is far more read and has a far greater circuitation than any other printed among the artisans, the workingmen and the more intelligent of the lower orders. I extract the following. I do not endorse all that it says, but I give it as a specimen of what the people think of that now going on in the Divorce Court. Whether it is true that Sir Charles Mordaunt was offered a peerage if he would not bring the Prince of Wates' name into court I cannot say. I can hardly believe that Mr. Gladstone—through whom the offer of a peerage most have come if such an offer was made—would nave lent himself to anything so humilating. But this I do know, that Sir Charles Mordaunt was sent for by the Queen about two months ago, and she made it a personal favor that the Prince should not be called upon to give evidence, and to-day I heard that he will not be called upon. Here are the remarks of Reynoids' Newspaper, the organ of the hard-fisted workingmen of London:—

The Prince of Wales in Tife Divonce Court.

The prince of wales in the area the remarks of Reynoids' Newspaper, the organ of the hard-fisted workingmen of London:—

The prince of wales in the prince of which was made to since sir Charles Mordaunt, however, was dead to every persuasion, and like a house and digities the criterious model in the himself that the prince of wales in accommission to be solved to the firme of the himself that the prince of wales in another had been promined be

position he is, among her only be especial from technically of over all in its legislature.

Thus, you see, loyalty is in England somewhat at a discount just at present. Nor is the writer in the paper from which I have quote the above the only person that believes both the Prince and the aristocracy of England to be greatly damaged by this expose. It is considered to be the most injurious and damaging blow at our present institutions that has been struck for the last thirty odd years—since indeed, the days when George IV, and his contonnous used to carry on as if they feared neither God nor man—as, indeed, they really did not.

I have made mention of the "fast" and the "slow" sets of people in "society" nere, I am told—and I hope for the credit of England it is true—that a great number of noblemen and gentlemen of the "slow" set have resolved neither to allow their wives and daughters to go to court, nor to go there themselves, that is, provided he he found to be guilty in this matter. That there is some foundation for this I have not the least doubt, and my reason for saying so is that the Queen has moved to Windows some two months carlier han usual this I have not the least doubt, and my reason for saying so is that the queen has moved to Windsor some two months earlier than usual this year, and it is given out that she intends to receive at the drawing cooms herself this season. How different is the present state of affairs at the English Court from the days when—in 1845 or '48—the omeer commanding one of the regiments of guards was told, by the Queen's express orders, that he must never show his face at Court again, because he had been guilty of a crim. com. affair with a married woman!

woman!
SHE CHARLES MORDAUNT AND AMERICAN SPORT.
I mentioned in my last letter that Sir Charles Mordaunt is a good rider, an excellent shot and very fond of all outdoor manly sports. A friend of his tells mg that so soon as his divorce case is over he intends starting for America and spending at least a couple of years shooting in the far West.

THE HACKENSACK AND NEW YORK RAILROAD.

The extension of the New York and Hackensack Railroad, which was commenced ten months ago, is at last completed, and yesterday the opening day at last completed, and yesterday the opening day was celebrated by an excursion of railroad men and parties interested in the road, besides a large number of invited guests from New York. At ten o'clock a special train, coataining a large number of guests, left lilisdale, the northern terminus of the road, and arrived at Hackensack about an hour afterwards. Here they from New York, who left the Long Dock depot at half-past tweive o'clock. The whole party then proceeded in one train over the road, and naving arrived at the residence of the President. Mr. Patterson, they were invited to partake of the hospitalities of his mansion. The train them returned to Hackensack, where a sumptious dinner was served up in the depot. Among those present were Senators Brinkertoof and hopper, superintendent Rucker and other officials of the Eric Railway, and many prominent men from Hackensack. Speeches were made, congratulations were tendered, the entire party scemed picased and happy, and all separated imbued with the Feeling that it was a great day for Hackensack.